



SuMaJor@aol.com on 10/05/2001 09:44:59 AM

To: YMP_SR@ymp.gov
cc:

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OCT - 8 2001

Subject: comments re Yucca Mountain

Part of Records Package / Supplement / Correction

October 5, 2001

Carol Hanlon, US Dept. of Energy
Yucca Mountain Site Characterization Office
M/S # 025
P.O. Box 30307
North Las Vegas, NV 89036-0307

Dear Ms. Hanlon:

RE: comments regarding Yucca Mountain as a repository for irradiated fuel rods and high-level radioactive waste and shipments to Yucca Mountain

My first comment is that the Secretary of Energy should NOT recommend to the President that Yucca Mountain be developed to serve as a repository for high-level radioactive waste and irradiated fuel rods.

From what I have read, I do not think that the site is suitable for development of a repository. I believe Yucca Mountain is geologically unsuitable and seismically unstable. How can such a site be acceptable or adequate for radioactive materials with half-lives of hundreds, thousands and even millions of years? How can such a site be determined to meet the applicable radiation protection standards? If someone determines that it does, I think the standards are not appropriate! Remember, permissible does not always mean safe!

I do not think the hazards of massive, extensive, and lengthy transport operations that would be necessary in connection with this radioactive waste have been adequately considered. Communities along the possible routes—people and property and the environment—could be drastically affected in the case of a transport accident. I live in St. Louis, Missouri. Those of us who live in areas through which radioactive waste could be transported, need more information: estimates and evaluations of the potential environmental impacts of these shipments. I DO NOT want radioactive waste from 103 operating commercial nuclear power reactors, from shutdown reactors, etc., going through my city.

The nation has a problem with irradiated fuel rods and high-level waste because nuclear technology was developed and used and commercialized WITHOUT there being a solution for the safe and permanent disposal of radioactive waste. When will we learn! My solution for assuring safe disposal of irradiated fuel rods and high-level radioactive waste is that we should STOP making the waste UNTIL a solution for permanent, safe storage is found, IF IT EVER CAN BE FOUND.

Thank you for considering my opinion!
Susan Jordan